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The Hongkong Telegraph

(ESTABLISHED 1861)

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December 8, 1917, Temperature 64 a.m. 53 2 p.m. 59
Humidity 79

December 8, 1917, Temperature 6 a.m. 65 2 p.m. 72
Humidity 86 85

WEATHER FORECAST
FAIR.

Barometer 30.11

7824 日四廿月十

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 8, 1917.

大拜禮 號八月二十英港香

SINGLE COPY 10 CENTS
\$36 PER ANNUM.

REUTERS' TELEGRAMS.

THE BRITISH WITHDRAWAL IN FRANCE.

Why Bourlon Wood Was Abandoned.

London, December 7.
Reuter's correspondent at the British Headquarters states:—Bourlon Wood extends six hundred acres. Its topographical conditions render it extremely undesirable to attempt to hold it in wet weather. Apart from the fact that it forms an enclave into enemy territory, it is subject to enfilade as well as direct fire. That the enemy did not know of the withdrawal till the morning seems proved by the fact that during the night they were laying heavy barages upon the abandoned positions. Their infantry advanced in the morning in large bodies but were repelled by gunners, and great losses were inflicted. The area was deemed it militarily advisable to abandon is probably less than one-third the total amount gained during the great tank drive a fortnight ago.

New Front Very Strong.

London, December 7.
Mr. Percival Phillips, the war correspondent at British Headquarters, states:—The shortening of our front is a regrettable minor sequel to the great advance, but our net gains are still very great. We have still the Hindenburg system at our back. The withdrawal was most deliberate. Not a single gun, rifle or round of ammunition was lost. All the captured German guns were withdrawn. New trenches were prepared under concealed observation. The new front is of the strongest and the men are excellently quartered.

Patrol Encounters.

London, December 7.
Field Marshal Sir Douglas Haig, in a communique, states:—Infantry actions on the Cambrai front were confined to patrol encounters. There is increased hostile artillery firing astride the Scarpe River.

No Change.

London, December 7.
Field Marshal Sir Douglas Haig, in a communique, states:—There is local fighting in the neighbourhood of La Vacquerie. The situation has not changed. Our artillery and infantry fire repulsed minor attacks south of Bourlon Wood, with severe enemy losses. Hostile artillery is active at a number of points south of the Scarpe, also in the neighbourhood of Armentieres.

A German Claim.

London, December 7.
A German wireless official message states:—We have cleared the English out of Maroing.

Nothing Vital Surrendered.

London, December 7.
Mr. Perry Robinson, the war correspondent at British Headquarters, states:—We have surrendered nothing vital of our gains. The breach in the Hindenburg Line remains as wide as it was. Bourlon Wood, as an acute angle in the salient, was a loathsome place, full of stagnant pools. The copse was continuously drenched with gas until the garrison had almost to live in gas masks. The hill on which the wood is situated in no way commands the country on our side as it does that beyond. It was essential to us for our advance and its loss might be serious to the Germans, but in their hands it is unimportant as a threat to us. The withdrawal in no way begins to convert our victory into defeat. The German attempt to inflict that defeat upon us has resulted chiefly in colossal losses to themselves.

Aviators Busy.

London, December 7.
Field Marshal Sir Douglas Haig, reporting on aviation, states:—There was great activity in the air on both sides on Wednesday. We carried out long-distance reconnaissances. We bombed and machine-gunned ground targets during the day. We bombed Gontrode aerodrome last night. Two direct hits by heavy bombs were obtained on an aeroplane shed and others burst among the buildings around the aerodrome. Bombs were dropped on St. Denis Westrem aerodrome and Douai Railway Station. There has been fighting all day long. Five German machines were brought down and five driven down. Five of ours are missing. Another successful raid was carried out on Germany to-day. All our machines safely returned. Details of the raid are awaited.

The French Front.

London, December 7.
A French communique states:—Artillery is active on the right bank of the Meuse and in Upper Alsace. Three enemy aeroplanes were brought down yesterday. Eight were hit and forced to descend. We dropped nine thousand kilograms of projectiles, especially on railway stations and depots at Lichenfeld and Courmarnok, cantonnements at Loen, and depots at Rousach. The enemy dropped bombs during the night on Dackirk, causing several casualties and also on Delais, where there were no casualties.

THE ARMISTICE.

Spreading to the Rumanian Front.

London, December 7.
The Times correspondent at the Rumanian Headquarters, writing on December 2, says:—I have returned from a visit to the Russian army in Rumania. Committees have been formed, mostly by pro-Germans, who have got hold of a majority of the rank and file. The towns near the front are overcrowded with soldiers from the trenches listening to inflammatory speeches. One Division of the Sixth Army signed an armistice. The Division next it fired on the German General and his staff who came to discuss terms. The Army in Moldavia and Bukovina fraternized. German and Russian officers dined together yesterday. The Bolsheviks are gaining the upper hand on the whole front. General Rogozna, commanding the Fourth Army, has been arrested.

RAIDS BY NAVAL AVIATORS.

London, December 7.
An Admiralty communication states:—Naval aircraft on Wednesday and Thursday bombed Uytkenke, St. Denis Westrem and Begel aerodromes, Bruges Dock and various railway airfields, setting fire. All returned. During the fighting of patrol we destroyed two machines, and shot down four, of which probably three were destroyed.

REUTERS' TELEGRAMS.

AUSTRALIAN AFFAIRS.

Voting in the Referendum.

London, December 7.
Reuter's correspondent at Melbourne says the Federal Council has now authorized all enlisted men under twenty-one to vote in the Referendum, although they have not yet served abroad.

A Boxer's Advice.

London, December 7.
Reuter's correspondent at Melbourne states that Jimmy Olabby, the well-known boxer, has enlisted and advises all American boxers in Australia to do likewise.

Madame Malba has cabled to America appealing to women of Australia to vote for the Government.

Women to be Organised.

London, December 7.
Reuter's correspondent at Sydney states that Mr. Hughes addressed a stirring appeal to an enormous enthusiastic audience of women at Her Majesty's Theatre. He stated that he intended to organise the women of Australia with a view to freeing men.

AMERICA'S NEW WAR DECLARATION.

London, December 7.
According to Reuter's correspondent at Washington, the Chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the House of Representatives, submitting a resolution declaring war on Austria-Hungary said, amid cheers, that President Wilson would ask Congress to declare war on Turkey and Bulgaria later if he deemed expedient, but he thought that at present such action would be unwise. The House agreed to take up the resolution on Friday, probably for immediate passage. The Report of the Committee accompanying the resolution recalls acts of the Austrian naval forces which have caused a state of war to exist for months. It refers to the Italian situation, where it says there is a serious blow against Italy which threatens the Allies' cause, which is equally the cause of the United States, and says the United States is sending ships, money and supplies to Italy and probably it will soon send troops. It concludes:—“This declaration of war will hearten the Italian people who have been misled by German propaganda and will militarily strengthen the whole Allied cause.”

A SUBSTANTIAL PROTEST.

London, December 7.
Reuter's correspondent at Sydney states that Mr. Hope, solicitor of Ipswich, has presented his second Malayan battleship as a mark of protest against Lord Lansdowne's speech.

GERMAN CONSPIRATORS ADMIT GUILT.

London, December 7.
Reuter's correspondent at San Francisco reports that von Brinken, formerly connected with the German Consulate there; Herr von Radiek, German ex-Consul at Honolulu; and Herr von Schroeder, his successor, have pleaded guilty to conspiracy to foment a revolution in India von Brinken said they thought they could best serve their country by avoiding further exposures in Court and “the less said about these cases the better for Germany.”

EARLIER TELEGRAMS.

BRITISH WITHDRAWAL NEAR CAMBRAI.

A Well-Chosen Line Now Occupied.

London, December 6.
Reuter's correspondent at Headquarters, explaining General Byng's withdrawal around Cambrai, says:—We have fallen back deliberately and successfully upon a well chosen line which rules out the salient made by Bourlon Wood and should enable us to maintain our hold upon the captured length of the Hindenburg Line against whatever pressure the Germans may apply in order to recover this loss. Bourlon Wood certainly possessed certain advantages as an observation post; but such advantages may prove very much too costly to retain unless immediately utilisable. The phenomenally fine weather may change any day, thus finally breaking up the campaigning season.

The German Version.

London, December 6.
A wireless German official message states:—We stormed trenches southward and south-westward of Moeuvres and pressed forward over the Bapume-Cambrai road. The enemy evacuated his forward positions between Moeuvres and Maroing withdrawing to the heights northward and eastward of Flesquieres. We captured Graincourt, Annoux, Cantaing and Noyelles heights, northward of Maroing, penetrating four kilometres on a front of ten kilometres. The retreating enemy fired the villages. Our prisoners now total 2,000 with 148 guns and 716 machine-guns.

VON TIRPITZ AND BRITISH SEA POWER.

London, December 6.
Commenting on Admiral von Tirpitz's speech at Essen, the Westminster Gazette says:—It throws a salutary douche of cold water on Hindenburg's and Ludendorff's recent assertion about Germany's strength by saying that nothing will be decided until British seapower is broken and pointing out the incontestable fact that this power is everywhere victorious in its own sphere. The Westminster Gazette emphasises the difference between British navalism and German militarism, though the Germans naturally pretend the former as aggressive and threatening to the world as the latter. Our worst enemy cannot pretend that we embarked on this war to extend our power or increase our possessions. We came in because Germany compelled us and what we hold of their territory we hold on trust for our behalf and that of our Allies for a guarantee against future attack.

NO VOTES FOR CONSCIENTIOUS OBJECTORS.

London, December 7.
The House of Commons adopted Sir G. Ouse's proposal to disfranchise conscientious objectors, but the period was reduced from seven to five years.

REUTERS' TELEGRAMS.

CAUCASUS COMMAND OPPOSE PEACE.

Copenhagen, December 6.
The Russian Legation has received a telegram from the Russian Legation at Teheran stating that the administration and the supreme military command in the Caucasus are anti-Maximalist. A Caucasian delegation has arrived at Teheran in order to negotiate for financial assistance for the continuance of the war through the Russo-British Legations.

A German official message states: The Central Powers and Russia have agreed upon the suspension of hostilities between 7th and 17th inst.

ENEMY ATTACK ON ITALIAN FRONT.

London, December 7.
An Italian official message reports: The enemy, after the failure of a frontal attack, attempted to carry on the rear with crushing numerical preponderance the Melette strong point. We resisted stubbornly, constantly counter-attacking, and only yielding ground when reinforcements garrisoned the rear line of defence. We repulsed heavily a powerful attempt in the upper Brenta Valley.

A German official message states: The Austro-Hungarians stormed and maintained strong Italian positions at Melette taking 11,000 prisoners and sixty guns.

AUSTRIA AND PEACE.

Amsterdam, December 7.
Speaking to the Hungarian Delegation, Count Czernin foreshadowed a re-arrangement of Austro-German economic relations as a counter-blast to the Entente measures. He disclaimed any desire to forcibly acquire territorial extensions and expressed the wish to conclude a general, just and honourable peace, safeguarding the Monarchy's territorial integrity and free political and economic development.

GERMAN MUTINY SCENES.

Battleship Captain Imprisoned in His Cabin.

The Daily Chronicle's special correspondent, Mr. G. Rawick, writes:—

Amsterdam, October 12.—The following additional details have reached me from an unquestionably reliable source as to the beginnings of the insurrection in the German Grand Fleet.

This information is as to the effect that the trouble first manifested itself about eight months ago at Wilhelmshaven. It was noticed that the crews of several vessels were in a state of considerable nervous tension, but this was at first attributed by the officers to the understandable results of their long enforced inactivity, and to a wish that “something might happen” to relieve the monotony.

As was afterwards discovered, however, this state of feeling was really caused by an agitation carried on mainly by sailors of the reserve class. That agitation started on board the battleship Westfalen, then at Wilhelmshaven, and quickly spread to other vessels lying in that naval port.

It was on the Westfalen, too, that insubordination first broke out. One morning one of the older sailors on the Westfalen was ordered to do a certain piece of work. He refused point blank, and when a midshipman asked him for a reason for his refusal the man replied, unwillingly, that he was too ill to perform the task. A superior officer was called, but the man persisted in his refusal to obey the order. The case was then referred to the captain, who had the man put under arrest.

On the following day a deputation from the crew, headed by a pretty officer, waited on the captain and asked for the man's release. The captain asked the deputation to explain their action, regarding which the captain expressed his astonishment and anger. The spokesman replied that the crews of several battleships had decided on the formation of a Sailors' Council on the lines of the Russian Soldiers' and Workers' Council. The captain, however, was unable to obtain any particulars from the deputation regarding the scheme, and ordered the men to leave the room. They refused to do so.

The captain, during those proceedings, was accompanied by two officers, and when he became aware of the seriousness of the situation he sent one of them ashore to report to the naval authorities there. When this officer had departed the deputation was joined by a number of other men, and the captain and the other officer were locked up in the cabin. The men involved in the matter posted guards and cut off that part of the ship containing the captain's room, refusing permission to officers or other men to pass.

Meanwhile the officer who had gone ashore had reported the happenings to the naval authorities, and a strong military force was sent aboard the ship. The rebellious sailors refused to yield to persuasion, and only when force was threatened and about to be applied did they surrender. Investigations followed, and they proved that about 300 men were involved in this particular mutiny. Of these about thirty were sentenced to death but only three were executed, the authorities seeing, plainly that any stern measures would only heap fuel on the flames of discontent and anger.

Before the execution of these men, it is stated that they divulged all the secrets of the plot, regarding which my informant says, only the most unimportant details were disclosed by Admiral von Capelle in the Reichstag. He was driven to disclose something by the fact that details of the business were becoming widely known, and the Government deemed it best to reveal a little, with the aim of calming the public mind and getting rid of the truth by an official version.

Something similar happened on another battleship while she was out on a cruise. The men on that ship obtained control, and were only prevented from running into a neutral port by the presence of other German vessels, which got wind of the occurrences and threatened to open fire unless the ship returned with them to port. In this case two other reports say three men were shot.

Prompt action had to be taken on other ships, and for some time several battleships lay at Wilhelmshaven without crews aboard. All the Socialist literature aboard these ships at Wilhelmshaven and other ports was seized, but that was found to consist of nothing more serious than pamphlets, which has been passed for publication by the censor, and which any sailor could buy in the shops ashore, thus providing another proof of the flimsy nature of von Capelle's charges against the three Socialists Deputies of the Reichstag.

WHISKY AND GIN.

Abnormal Prices in London Market.

There has (says our correspondent) been a great demand for both grain and malts of all makes and sizes obtainable, but available parcels being so limited, great difficulty is experienced in coping with the numerous enquiries which keep arriving from all sources. In fact, many have to be laid aside as holders prefer not to quote at all, and do not want to sell. Prices have risen to such an abnormal extent that it is impossible to say what market prices really are, as nearly any price one cares to ask for old or young makes can be got without demur from eager buyers. The prices realised at Messrs. Southard's sale held on 30th and 31st ult. were beyond all previous experience, and whether in bond or duty-paid unheard-of figures were obtained—40s. original gallon for 3 years' old Glen Grant; 28s. per original proof gallon for 3 years' old Vauxhall Grain; and 41s. per original proof gallon for 3 years' old John Jameson, with ready bidders at any price approaching these figures. It is hardly conceivable, but we do not think the limit has yet been reached judging from the crowd at the sale, and the keenness on the part of buyers to try and secure what they wanted. Gin is very scarce, and some firms must be greatly in want of same to pay 100s. per gallon 17 u.p.—The Wine and Spirit Trade Record.

FRENCH ROYALISTS.

Mobilisation Scheme Unearthed.

Paris, Wednesday, November 1.—The Temps prints what is apparently an inspired statement of the Government's proceedings against the Royalist newspaper L'Action Francaise, whose editor, Leon Daudet, recently made charges of treason against Louis J. Malvy, former Minister of the Interior. It says that the Government had received information leading it to believe that the Royalist movement was preparing to act against the Government. The matter was placed in the hands of the military authorities and the Department of Justice in order to throw light on this as well as on other cases under investigation.

A search showed, the Temps adds, that the information received concerning arms was exaggerated, but that a plan of mobilisation of the Action Francaise league was found. It was dated 1913-14, and it is known that a collection of indices was found bearing dates during May and June of 1917. The Department of Justice is now trying to ascertain if there was any connection between the indices and the plot of mobilisation. It is said that the Government does not contemplate arresting any directors of the league.

The Temps says that the arms seized in Paris and the departments totalled 15 automatic revolvers, 154 knucklers, 62 loaded canes, 25 clubs, and 300 cartridges.

DON'T FORGET.

TO-DAY.

Hongkong University—Bazaar and Entertainment in aid of Tientsin Flood Relief Fund. Victoria Theatre—9.15 p.m. Bijou Theatre—9.15 p.m. New Hongkong Cinema—9.15 p.m.

TOMORROW.

Victoria Theatre—9.15 p.m. Bijou Theatre—9.15 p.m. New Hongkong Cinema—9.15 p.m. Monday, December 10. Grand Boxing Tournament at City Hall—9.15 p.m.

NOTICES.

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Head Office, 15th August 1914.

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GENERAL NEWS.

868,000 Lamp Bulbs Stolen.

Simon Deitch, electrician, of Brick-lane, Spitalfields, charged with being concerned in stealing from the De. Battery Company, Ltd., Aldersgate-street, 888,000 electric lamp bulbs, value \$1,800, was remanded at Guildhall recently.

Mr. Ernest Parke and Parliament. Mr. Ernest Parke, of the Daily News, has declined the invitation made to him by the Warwickshire Farmers' Union to stand as a Parliamentary candidate for one of the divisions of the county. Mr. Parke has a farm in Warwickshire.

Boot-Repairing. It is announced that the National Federation of Boot Trade Associations rejected by a large majority a proposal from the Birmingham Repairs' Association, expressing the view that wounded soldiers "deserved a better fate than to be damaged into the boot-repairing trade."

Fallen "Old Blues." "Feeder's Day" was celebrated at Christ Church, Newgate-street, recently, by a commemorative service for the 228 "Old Blues" who have fallen in the war. It was conducted by the Rev. D. W. Upcott, D.D., Head Master of Christ's Hospital, and the Rev. T. R. Hine-Baynes.

Death of Former Lord Mayor. Mr. James Whitehead, Bart., a former Lord Mayor of London, died recently at his residence, Wilmington Manor, near Dartford, in his eighty-fourth year. He was M.P. for Dartford in 1892, without a contest, and retired through illness in 1897. He was elected Lord Mayor of London in 1899.

Red Cross Market. A Red Cross fair at Knutsford took the form of an old-time market, opened by Katherine, Duchess of Westminster, in which Lord and Lady Egerton, Lady Sheffield, Sir K. and Lady Cropley, and Sir Allen Sykes, M.P., were associated. Valuable gifts included cattle and sheep from Lord Egerton.

The Gallant Sydney. Major-General Sir Henry Barron, late Governor of Western Australia, has presented, on behalf of the people of Western Australia, silver medals to every member of the crew of H.M.A.S. Sydney and a piece of plate to the officers' mess, in commemoration of the vessel's fine feat in sinking the raider Emden in November, 1914.

Much Decorated Officer. The most decorated officer in the Italian army is Col. Ambrosi, 38 years old, who has been awarded two silver and two bronze medals for valor, the French Croix de Guerre, the British Military Cross, and other decorations of Allied countries. He fought in China and Africa, and has been twice wounded in the present war. He now commands a cyclist battalion.

City Early Closing. The Early Closing Association state that the City wholesale grocers are now closing at 5 p.m. o'clock, and appeal to owners of factories and offices to also close early to enable the young women and girls to cope with the present difficulties in reaching home.

Rhonda Valley Spook. Rhonda Valley was much disturbed recently by what was supposed by the simple folk who live in those parts to be a spook. As soon as the sun fell a 1917 in white fitted a boat the Rhonda of the valley. About 7 p.m. a light alarm was so widespread that they would not venture out at night. The spook was said to be a man, and it is said that the spectral figure resembled one of them who had been killed in the war. The police took the matter seriously, and tracked down a spook to a neighboring mountain. She turned out to be a girl, and blood with considerable personal attractions. Beyond confessing to the spook, she was quite in white, and had no account of herself.

GENERAL NEWS.

Fit Match Order Charge.

It was described as the first case in London under the recent Match Order Charge. An attendant at the L.R. at Victoria Railway Station was charged with making a charge, when a customer asked for matches, that he should be something else. The attendant was bound over and the magistrates fined £10 and £10 costs.

Bolt in America.

The Attorney-General of New York has made a statement to reporters regarding Mr. Hearst and M. Jules Pacha from any connection with the Pacha's activities in that country. They certainly were at the famous Sherry dinner, which was apparently a purely social affair. Mr. Hearst accuses the Attorney-General of political partisanship, and threatens to sue him for slander.

Cold Weather in England.

Yesterday (see the London Daily News of October 6) was the coldest day in London since last spring. The thermometer never reached higher than 54 degs., and during the night registered 44 degs., 11 degs. lower than the previous night, and the mean temperature of the 24 hours was 10 degs. below that of Thursday (Oct. 4) at 48 degs. In Westmorland on October 5 the first snow of the season fell in the Pennines.

Famous Draper's Death.

Mr. Charles James Douglas Darry, founder 60 years ago of the drapery firm of Messrs. Darry and Toms, Kensington, has died at Upper Norwood. He was in his 88th year, but was vigorous and active, and attended to business much as usual until a fortnight before his death. A Congregationalist, Mr. Darry took a great interest in philanthropic and religious work. He celebrated his diamond wedding in 1911. His wife died two years ago. Eight sons survive him.

Constantine's Fear of the Kaiser.

Athens, October 23.—Yesterday the Chamber decided to impeach the Government and the Lambrakis Cabinet. In the discussion M. Venizelos revealed that on February 21 (old style) he had his last talk with the ex-King before his resignation. Mr. Venizelos pointed out the imperious necessity for Greece to intervene on the side of the Entente, but the King closed the conversation by declaring: "How could I face the Kaiser again if I go against him?" M. Repantis, Minister of the Interior, revealed that the ex-King had declared to him too that he would "rather commit suicide than abandon neutrality to fight on the side of the Entente." M. Repantis added that the ex-King, in reply to M. Dionides, who drew his attention to the obligations imposed by the Constitution, declared: "That doesn't matter to me."

Noted Social Reformer's Death.

Death is announced of Mr. W. E. Dowding, who was for some years editor of the weekly organ of the Free Trade Union. From the early days of war Mr. Dowding's genius for organising and managing large bodies of men had full and successful scope in the office of secretary of the Queen Mary's Club and Headquarters for Overseas Soldiers at Vauxhall, one of the most excellent institutions of its kind in London. Mr. Dowding was an enthusiastic admirer of Mr. Lloyd George, and when the present Government was formed he accepted a responsible position on the staff of the Government. With the devotion and unremitting industry which characterised him in all his undertakings, like most busy men, he always found time for something more, and he was a very earnest social reformer, who was largely on the questions of the day. Mr. Dowding, who was about 45 years of age, and presented a singularly robust appearance, had been ill some time, but not, it was thought, seriously, and his collapse and death had been quite unexpected.

NOTICES.



VICTOR RECORDS
THE RECORDS OF QUALITY.
Selections from
all the Grand Opera's.
Musical Comedies etc.
All the World's most
famous Artists, are at
your command.
20% discount allowed for cash
with order.
MOUTRIE'S
EXCLUSIVE AGENTS



Save Your Eyes
THE ONLY
EUROPEAN OPTICIAN
IN THE COLONY.
DOCTORS' PRESCRIPTIONS ACCURATELY FILLED.
N. LAZARUS,
OPHTHALMIC OPTICIAN
28, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL.

Prepaid Advertisements.

ONE CENT PER WORD
FOR EACH INSERTION.

TO BE LET.
TO BE LET—A FLAT in
Nathan Road, Kowloon.
FOUR ROOMED HOUSES in
Kowloon.
Apply to—
HUMPHREYS ESTATE &
FINANCE CO., LTD.,
Alexandra Buildings.

TO BE LET.—HOUSES on
Shameen, CANTON.
OFFICES in York Buildings.
Apply to—
THE HONGKONG LAND
INVESTMENT & AGENCY
CO., LTD.

WANTED.
POSITION WANTED as
NURSE or CHAMBER-
MAID, for the period of a journey
to America, by a lady desirous
of obtaining free passage from
Hongkong to New York. Apply
Box 1343 c/o "Hongkong Tele-
gram."

GRAND
BOXING TOURNAMENT

Under the Auspices
of the POLICE RESERVE
at the City Hall, on MONDAY, 10th December.
Commencing 9.15 P.M. Sharp.

Under the distinguished patronage of H. E. Hon. Mr. Claud Severn, C.M.G., Officer Administering the Government, H. E. Major General Ventris, G.O.C. and Commodore H. G. G. Sandeman, R.N., H. E. Sir William Rees Davies, K.C., Chief Justice and H. E. the Puisne Judge (Mr. Gompertz).

Extra Special 15 Round Contest.
L.S., H. ATKINSON, R.N. v. YOUNG AHEARNE, R.N.
For the Middleweight Championship of the Colony.

6 Round Light-Heavyweight Contest.
Gnr. EMBLETON, R.A. v. Sto. BARCLAY, R.N.

6 Round Lightweight Contest.
Ch. Sto. LEE, R.N. v. Spr. SMITH, R.E.

6 Round Bantam-weight Contest.
Cpl. STUBBS, Mdlsr. Reg. v. Sto. JAMES, R.N.

6 Round Bantamweight Contest.
Sto. WELSH, R.N. v. Pta. ROLFE, Mdlsr. Rgt.

6 Round Lightweight Contest.
A. B. DONNAHUE, R.N. v. Spr. LEWIN, R.E.

Referee Mr. W. S. Bailey.
Timekeepers: Sgt. Pitt, Mr. A. B. Allan.

BOOKING AT MOUTRIE'S.

PRICES: \$5, \$3, \$2, and \$1.

Members of H. M. Regular Forces half price to \$2 and \$1 Seats.

PROCEEDS IN AID OF WAR CHARITIES.

NOTICES.

TIENTSIN FLOODS.
THE HONGKONG UNIVERS-
SITY UNION
BAZAAR
will continue on
SATURDAY, December 8th, from
2.30 P.M. to 10 P.M.

At the 10 P.M. there will be an
Auction of all goods not sold

Bargains on the last Day.

THE DAIRY FARM CO., LTD.

APPLICATION has been made
to the Directors of this
Company to issue to ADELINA
O'DEUGHERREZ of Hong-
kong a duplicate certificate of
one share in this Company or
other Certificate or Certificates
in lieu thereof upon the state-
ment that the original certificate
for one share No. 7217 dated 26th
October 1896 has been lost or
destroyed. AND NOTICE IS
HEREBY GIVEN that if within
30 days from the date hereof no
claim or representation in respect
of such original certificate is
made to the Directors they will
proceed to deal with such ap-
plication for certificate.

M. MANUK,
Secretary.

Dated 1st day of December, 1917.

NOTICES.

NOTICE.
THE MOTOR UNION INSUR-
ANCE CO., LTD.
(Fire & Marine)

HAVING been appointed
Agents to the above Com-
pany, we are prepared to accept
risks at current rates.

UNION TRADING CO.,

Agents.

Queen's Buildings
Hongkong, 12th November, 1917.

KEROSENE OIL.

We guarantee all kerosene oil
sold by us to be pure and
undiluted.

Present price—

"WHITE ROSE,"

\$5.55 per case ex store.

"COMET,"

\$5.35 per case ex store.

CHING CHEONG

168 Des Voeux Road Central,
2 blocks West of Cent. Market.

KWONG YUEN,
19 Des Voeux Road, West.

FREE TO ALL SUFFERERS

OF RHEUMATISM, GOUT, GRAVEL, NEURALGIA, MIGRAINE, SCIATICA, BRUISES, SWELLINGS, LAMENESS, AND ALL AFFECTIONS OF THE JOINTS AND MUSCLES, AND ALL AFFECTIONS OF THE SKIN, AND ALL AFFECTIONS OF THE NERVOUS SYSTEM, AND ALL AFFECTIONS OF THE DIGESTIVE ORGANS, AND ALL AFFECTIONS OF THE RESPIRATORY ORGANS, AND ALL AFFECTIONS OF THE CIRCULATORY ORGANS, AND ALL AFFECTIONS OF THE EXCRETORY ORGANS, AND ALL AFFECTIONS OF THE REPRODUCTIVE ORGANS, AND ALL AFFECTIONS OF THE URINARY ORGANS, AND ALL AFFECTIONS OF THE GENITAL ORGANS, AND ALL AFFECTIONS OF THE PERIPHERAL NERVOUS SYSTEM, AND ALL AFFECTIONS OF THE CENTRAL NERVOUS SYSTEM, AND ALL AFFECTIONS OF THE ENDOCRINE GLANDS, AND ALL AFFECTIONS OF THE IMMUNE SYSTEM, AND ALL AFFECTIONS OF THE DEFENSIVE SYSTEM, AND ALL AFFECTIONS OF THE REGULATORY SYSTEM, AND ALL AFFECTIONS OF THE ADAPTIVE SYSTEM, AND ALL AFFECTIONS OF THE INTEGRATIVE SYSTEM, AND ALL AFFECTIONS OF THE COORDINATIVE SYSTEM, AND ALL AFFECTIONS OF THE MOTILE SYSTEM, AND ALL AFFECTIONS OF THE 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2	Bots St. Etaspehe Claret	1	Bot. Superior Old Cognac
2	1 " Light Dry Sherry	1	" Very Old Liqueur Scotch
2	" Port Full Bodied	1	" Whisky "E" Quality
2	" Gin	1	" Dewar's Scotch Whisky

Case No. 2—\$28.

1	Bot. St. Marceau Champagne	1	Bot. Superior Old Liqueur Cognac
1	Burgundy Beaune	1	" Very Old Liqueur Scotch
3	Bots St. Etaspehe Claret	1	" Whisky "E" Quality
1	Bot. Light Dry Sherry, Randeman's	1	" Dewar's Scotch Whisky
1	" Port Superior Light Invalid	1	" Gin
		3 1/2	" Orange Curacao.

*** Case No. 3—\$32.**

1	Bot. St. Marceau Champagne	1	Bot. Killy Liqueur Whisky (Guar-
1	" Old Brown Sherry, EE Quality		anteed 20 years old)
2	Bots Superior Old Port. "B" Quality	3	Bots St. Julien Claret
1	Bot. "Very Finest Old Brown Brandy	1	" Gin
	" "E" Quality	3 1/2	" Orange Curacao.
1	" Very Old Liqueur Scotch		
	Whisky "E" Quality		

A. S. WATSON & Co., Ltd.,
WINE & SPIRIT MERCHANTS,
Tel. 616.

All communications intended for publication should be addressed to the Editor.
Business correspondence should be sent to the Manager.

Telephone: No. 1 A.B.C., 5th edition. Western Union
Office address: 11, Ice House St.

HONGKONG, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 8, 1917.

There is small, if any, profit to be derived from the practice—not uncommon in these strenuous times—of labelling one's adversary by some opprobrious epithet. It must be admitted that in most cases the epithet if not exactly veracious is generally not lacking in significance. Such undoubtedly is the case when to the Germans, more particularly to the German troops, the name of the Modern Hun is applied. In the opinion of most persons, to more appropriate designation could be given to our chief enemy and none more richly deserved than that of Hun, for through the centuries since the barbarous Attila and his followers descended upon civilisation and by their many actions of wholesale cruelty, plunder, murder, rapine, terror and tyranny, earned for themselves the name of the "Scourge of Europe," none has deserved it more thoroughly, as none has had it applied to them more universally and with so much general assent, than the German troops—officers and men alike. There is no more suitable term to be applied to soldiers devoid, not of chivalry for a vanquished foe—for that is not in question at present—but of the ordinary feelings of humanity which are known to be abundantly prevalent among the soldiers except those of the "cultured" Fatherland. Their Teutonic brethren, both of Austria and Hungary, have on more than one occasion fairly well justified for the title, but on the whole, bad as they are, they do not yet fully deserve it. It is a term reserved for the worst of their kind—and therefore it is applicable only to the Germans. It is well that we should bear in mind for what reason the term Hun is so frequently applied to German soldiers, and an occasional turning over in one's mind of some of the excesses by which the term has been earned will not be amiss. In ordinary times, it is well-known that the public mind is very short, and that even the most heinous action causes little more than the proverbial "nine days' wonder." It is therefore not surprising that, in these days when it is more often the case than not that dramatic events of great magnitude and of far-reaching consequences follow upon the heels of one another with astounding rapidity, we should fail to bear in mind the phrase "Lest we forget" in connection with the terrible events that have earned for German soldiers the awful epithet of "the modern Huns." Ever recurring in our minds should we have the terrible and barbarous deeds of the Germans as they trampled their way, in the manner of the assassin, through Belgium. The hideous crimes—not ordinary acts of warfare, it should be remembered—that were committed by them at Louvain, Aerschot, Louvain and elsewhere, are unparalleled in modern warfare. So also is their cruel murder of Nurse Cavell and of Captain Robert Fryatt. In Northern France their barbarities have been no less hideous, and through the ages will be pointed at, as a mark of peculiar savagery, the compulsory departure of the vast majority of the population of Lille and other towns. These are the actions for which the Germans have received the foulest epithet that can be applied to the soldiers of to-day and it is well that we should keep them in mind.

The Air Raid.

An Outspoken German.

that the winning of the war is only a matter of time. The sponsor of the U-boat campaign told to his audience, that Britain had taken away their Colonies, had snatched deeper her maritime and colonial supremacy and had abolished German competition in the world's markets. All of which is true, of course, however unacceptable it may be to enemy ears. One of the statements made by von Tirpitz is that nothing can be decided until British sea-power is broken. He probably speaks feelingly on that subject, for it was his failure to secure a verdict by means of submarineism which led to his dismissal from office. And he knows as well as anybody, and probably better than most, that so long as the British Navy rules on the seas, U boats will never win the war for the Germans. At present, we hold the situation in absolute control. In contrast, the great mis-named German High Seas Fleet remains locked away in the security of the Kiel Canal, afraid to venture out and dispute our supremacy. British sea-power has been the biggest factor of success in this war. But for it, the Allied cause would have collapsed long ago. And to-day it remains invincible still.

DAY BY DAY.

Monday's Anniversary.
Monday is the anniversary of the institution of the Royal Academy (1768).

Passport Regulations.
Passport regulations proclaimed by the Government of Ceylon are published in the Hongkong Government Gazette for general information.

Tea and Sugar.
It is notified, with regard to the restrictions placed upon the importation of certain articles into the United Kingdom, that *bona fide* gifts of tea, up to the weight allowed by the postal regulations, and of sugar in parcels not exceeding one pound in weight are admitted, if sent through the parcel post.

— Albert and Edward Medals.
The Hongkong Government Gazette contains copies of Royal Warrants amending the rules governing the award of the Albert Medal and the Edward Medal. The bronze medals in each case, which are these usually awarded, will in future be called the "Albert Medal" and the "Edward Medal" respectively and that the higher degree of each decoration, which will be given only for acts of extreme and heroic daring, will be known in the one case as the "Albert Medal in Gold" and in the other as the "Edward Medal in Silver."

Sailor v. Constable.
A Chinese sailor, aboard H.M.S. Tamar, appeared before Mr. J. R. Wood, at the Police Court this morning, charged with assaulting an Indian constable. It appeared that a number of men were standing on the footpath, including defendant, and they were making a disturbance. The constable went up to move them on, and defendant said he could stand there as long as he liked. He was caught hold of the constable by the coat, which was torn. Inspector Sim said the man made a noise in the station. He had been drinking. His Worship said he could not have the Police assaulted, and fined defendant £15.

The Late Major Thicknesse.
The death is announced of Major F. W. Thicknesse, R.A., D.S.O. The deceased officer, who died of wounds on October 19, was attached to the General Staff in Hongkong for some considerable time before he left for the Front in May, 1915. Before leaving the Colony he was promoted to the rank of Captain, and had commanded his battery of heavy guns for about fifteen months. He was twice mentioned in dispatches and last May was awarded the D.S.O. Major Thicknesse while in Hongkong was a keen polo player and took an active part in the gymkhana. He was the elder son of Frederick Thicknesse, rector of St. George's, Hanover Square, and was thirty-one years old.

The returns of the average amount of bank notes in circulation and of specie in reserve in Hongkong, during the month ended 30th November, 1917, as certified by the managers of the respective Banks, are as follows:—

DR. WU TING-FANG.

When Dr. Wu Ting-fang left Shanghai recently for Canton he was accompanied by his son, Mr. Wu Hsiao-chen, and Mr. C. T. Wang. The younger Mr. Wu and Mr. Wang had both come up from Canton since the development of the Cabinet crisis in Peking.

Dr. Wu, says the *China Press*, strenuously insisted that he was going south only on personal business and also for his health, but it can be authoritatively stated that he is going down to take a leading and active part in the Southern government.

Dr. Wu has been on the point of going to Canton for two months. His sympathies have at all times been positively on the side of the South, but he has been unwilling to go until some semblance of unity was achieved in Canton. And it has been obvious even on the surface that the Southern party was not united, that the Sun Yat-sen element was pulling in one direction, the moderates in another, direction and the military at times in still another.

The collapse of the Tuan Chi-jui government and the crumbling of the Anhwei faction of militia chiefs has now brought the Canton leaders to see the necessity of working together. Compromise offers have already been made to them and still more will be made. And it is to decide what compromise shall be accepted, if any, that a conference of all the Southern leaders will shortly be held. It is to take part in this conference that Dr. Wu has gone to Canton. It is possible also that the Provisional Government will be entirely re-organised, with a wider representation.

The chances for peace depends on what terms the Chihli faction—the element headed by President Feng Kwo-chang—is willing to make to the South. The Canton party is in independent mood; it is none too eager for an immediate peace with Tuan and Feng at odds. It holds the balance of power now and it knows it. And, further, it has more strength even in the North than would appear on the surface. Li Shun, for instance, whose yamen in Nanking has been the political centre for more than a fortnight, is leaning towards the South, partly because he is acting with Feng Kwo-chang and partly because he has an eye to his own future. Li Shun is not only solidifying himself with the South but is emerging as one of the strongest men in China.

The peace negotiations will in all probability be made through Li Shun. Sung Hung-yi, who has been acting as agent for the South has had several meetings with Li during the last six weeks. C. T. Wang saw him early last week. At the latter meeting terms were definitely discussed and Mr. Wang is returning to Canton to report.

There are different versions of what Canton wants and Peking is willing to give. This much is certain—that Canton will never yield until another Parliament is called. Some want the old Parliament restored, others want an entirely new one elected, but any settlement the South makes will be conditional on the summoning of some legislative body.

Another demand by the South will be some sort of military footing in Central China. What form this will take cannot now be said, but it will insist on some way of making its voice effective in the future. It has learned its lesson from the past. Again and again it has made a settlement and been disarmed, only to have that settlement nullified in a few months by the military chieftains of the North while it looked on helplessly from one corner of the country. It is going to take steps this time so that it can make some effective protests in the future.

Representation in the Cabinet will of course be another demand. As to the personnel of the Southern representation it is too early to say anything. Many men are being suggested—and many more want to be—but there is no agreement as yet on that.

HONGKONG TWENTY-FIVE
YEARS AGO.

The Dollar.
Dec. 8.—The rate of the dollar on demand to-day is 2/8½.

The Volunteer Scheme.

Dec. 8.—In reply to "H.V.A." we have only to say that the correspondence on the Volunteer question was not published in the *Hongkong Telegraph* because it was not sent to this journal. The namby-pamby promoters of this ridiculous scheme lately submitted to the Government have neither pluck nor independence enough to submit their childish facts to sensible criticism. We might say more, but the subject is not worth wasting time over, and the persons above referred to are absolutely beneath contempt.

New Poisen Judge.
Dec. 19.—There was a full muster of the legal fraternity at the Supreme Court this morning to welcome Mr. E. J. Ackroyd, the newly-appointed Poisen Judge.

Dec. 13.—"Mexican Bill" got his balloon to soar up towards Cloudland this afternoon, but as there was a strong north-east breeze blowing across the Polo Ground at the time, the daring aeronaut, who was hanging on to a trapeze, below the parachute, was blown rapidly against the tall trees that skirt the ground, and he was torn from his swing and dropped heavily on the ground. Meanwhile the balloon went gracefully on its way and dropped at the southern end of Happy Valley, whither the plucky Mexican, who picked himself up in a moment or two, sped in pursuit of his ("all in all")

Dec. 13.—"Cricketeer."—The *Telegraph* has been for months past boycotted by the mad-headed Committee of the Hongkong Cricket Club, for reasons with which we are not acquainted, and it is mainly on that account that so little of our space has lately been devoted to reporting the progress of the manly game in this Colony. There are other reasons, of course, the principle ones being the long-continued illness of our cricket reporter. However we intend

shortly joining issue with the Cricket Club Committee, and if anybody who form that august body are not amenable to reason, common-sense and the universally recognised principles of fair play, we shall give them more trouble than they have any notion of. For "Cricketer's" opinion that the *Telegraph*, is the only paper in the Colony that knows how to intelligently report a cricket match we are much obliged.

The "Masher Brigade."
Dec. 15.—A lending article on the Volunteer scheme contains the following:—"If volunteering is to be encouraged, let the encour-

management be given to those who have striven hard in the past and on lines that are likely to prove useful. Clubs, guilds, unions, coolies to do all the hard work for the proposed Master Brigade, social cliques, and a really good time at the expense of the tax-payers, may form a glittering programme, but *est bono* and will the public quietly acquiesce in such a transparent and rotten programme? We don't think so, and, as our morning contemporary is unable to see why a body of two hundred men should not be enrolled and kept up to that number for the sum of £100,000, Governor Robinson, we have only to simply explain that there are not 200 British subjects in Hongkong—and aliens are not eligible—who would volunteer for active service—under circumstances—unless actually threatened—

Railway Train.
A coal train ran wild seven miles down a steep incline on the Great Western and Rhymney Railway, from Oswestry, Powis, to Penarth, at the rate of eighty miles an hour recently, as men on the train were un-
derd. The train was checked finally by rising ground.

Is Troy in Avon Minor East Anglia? Theophile Gaille (who has just died in Paris) is the latter view—to the sound of his fellow savants and claspists—and produced a wealth of gradation to prove it. The city of the ten years' siege by the Greeks has been identified by Maillieux with the ruins of the adal on Gogmagrog, outside Cambridge! According to him, the Jam and Ouse are Homeric rivers, which tumble into the Wash so called, because in was required to cleanse the Greeks for their pilation and pillage of Apollo's temple. Even Fleam's Dyke is associated with Hector's flight, as the Devil's Dyke is Homer's Ege Wall, the abode of spirits. Jastorising in clearly where the Troes defended their fleet wit four—weeks destroyed by the gods, who had not been consulted. Local tradition still speaks of a town buried in the Wash. Jactor's body lies at Bury St. Edmunds, according to a Breton tradition, and the Achians are simply early Celts.

Thus we are our civilisation, not to the Mediterranean but to the Atlantic, whereas Ulysses sailed and the Druids were our spiritual fathers. Homer himself was an Andalusian, and his heroes were Iberians. Menelaus came to Paris—the Ile of Phœnix—says the lecturer who announ-
ced these theories in 1885, just a few years after Dr. Schliemann's excavations had established the mound of Hisarlik in the Troad (Asia Minor) as the city of Priam. In any case, there has died within the old cavan an alluring piece of reasoning, flattering to British and Gallic culture.

When the Allies come to the final stage of insisting upon the restoration of Alsace-Lorraine to Bismarck himself, may be cited with effect. That statesman did not force Mr. Sydney Brooks's metallurgical arguments, but he became a convert to annexation—like a good German—because his monarch willed it. And this was the ground he found for getting good out of evil: "In the interest of Germany as well as of all Europe, our policy must aim at enslaving France as much as possible, and rendering her incapable for a long time of breaking the general peace." Substitute Germany for France, and you have it in a nutshell.

By the death of William Hole, at the age of 70, we have lost one of our greatest etchers, as well as a fine painter of historical subjects. His illustrations to Barrie's "Window in Thrums," Stevenson's "Kidnapped," and W. E. Hanley's editions of Burns's poems are familiar to most of us. Robert Louis Stevenson said of him, "Mr. Hole will imagine methods of etching fitted to render the most different styles of painting, and all these inventions will be wonderful and beautiful in themselves."

Those who are eternally complaining of lack of method in this country, and extolling Germany as the land of super-organization, will no doubt be pleased to learn that criticism of authorities is more rampant in the land of the Kaiser than it is here. Particularly is this so with regard to food control, although the number of general statutes, decrees, and orders relating to foods amounts to about 900, apart from provincial, district, and communal regulations. Not only is complaint heard from public and Press, but different organizations and authorities are at loggerheads. It is significant, too, that one of the most popular words in Germany is "extortion" which is evidently the national synonym for "profficeering." There are abundant complaints, also, against the scheme of National Civilian Service.

Death of French General.
General Bava-Gro has died suddenly in the first line trenches. He played an important part in the great African expeditions between 1899 and 1900, especially in the Marchand expedition.

THE MISSES WOODS.

Entertainment at Military Hospital.

A very delightful Cabaret entertainment was given last night at the Hongkong Military Hospital by those clever artistes, Mrs. Woods and the Misses Aileen and Doris Woods, which would certainly have enhanced their reputation for tunefulness, brightness and versatility were it not that their reputation in Hongkong is now so strongly established that enhancement is practically impossible.

The entertainment was organised by the hospital staff and was primarily intended for the amusement of the patients, and, in response to an invitation sent to the Royal Naval Hospital, a detachment of walking patients came along from there, the total audience being augmented up to about 130 by friends of the Staff of the Military Hospital.

Needless to say, all were delighted with the excellent programme presented, which comprised over two dozen items, including English patriotic songs, Hawaiian love songs, "other little American songs," and dainty interpretations of two steps and the hesitation waltz. Where every item received such hearty applause, it is hard to specialise, but probably the most popular were "Down Honolulu Way," "Are you from Dixie?" "Blighly," "Every Tommy has a Girl Somewhere," and "There's only one England."

The members of the Sergeants' Mess had worked hard to make the large ward in which the entertainment was held festive with flowers, and with bunting kindly lent by the Admiralty, and the thanks of all are due to the British American Tobacco Company for the cigarettes kindly supplied by them.

At the close, a vote of thanks for the performers was called for by Lieut. Colonel Cripp, R. A. M. O., and responded to with musical honours and much enthusiasm by the audience.

ST. JOHN AMBULANCE BRIGADE.

Orders issued to-day by Mr. E. Ralphs state:—

Y.M.C.A. Division.
Friday, 14th December, 8 p.m. Parade for inspection; full Marching Order. Baggage for Camp to be sent to Divisional Headquarters not later than 3 p.m.

Saturday, 15th December, 10.30 a.m. Fall in at Head Quarters for Camp; full Marching Order.

Sallying Division.
Monday, 10th December, 4.20 p.m. Recruit Drill.

Wednesday, 12th December, 2.20 p.m. Band Practice.

Thursday, 13th December, 4.20 p.m. Recruit Drill.

Saturday, 15th December, 2.20 p.m. Band Practice.

Queen's College Division.
"A" Section.

Thursday, 13th December, 1.20 p.m. Banding Practice.

Friday, 14th December, 4.30 p.m. Squad and Stretcher Drill.

"B" Section.

Monday, 10th December, 4.30 p.m. First Aid Class.

Thursday, 11th December, 1.20 p.m. Squad Drill.

Thursday, 13th December, 4.30 p.m. First Aid Class.

Friday, 14th December, 1.20 p.m. Squad Drill.

Victoria Division.
On duty at the H.K.D.O. Camp.

WAR SAVINGS.

We have received from the Union Insurance Society of Canton, Ltd., Hon. Secretaries and Treasurers of the Hongkong and South China War Savings Association, the twelfth list of subscriptions. This shows that a further \$49,525 has been received in local currency, bringing the total to \$1,007,390, while in Straits currency a sum of \$15,493.70 has been subscribed, making the total \$527,608. In addition, there has been received \$287.84. 8d. in sterling, which now stands at \$1,495.24. 91. and \$288.20 in gold currency, the total of which is now \$734.38.

For ONE WEEK only

SPECIAL SHOW

EVENING DRESSES

MAISON LILY

This Establishment will be open on Saturday afternoons of the 8th, 15th and 22nd.

4° FRENCH LOAN.

(Rent Perpetuelle 4%).

The BANQUE INDUSTRIELLE DE CHINE begs to announce that, to ensure the arrival of applications in Paris before December 16th, they will telegraph a first list of subscriptions from here on the 11th INSTANT.

Intending subscribers are therefore invited to apply without delay.

Issue Price: 68.60

All applications from Foreign Countries will be allotted in full.

Further particulars on application to the

BANQUE INDUSTRIELLE DE CHINE,
5, Chater Road.

GERMAN SNIPERS.

Picked Off by American Troops.

With the American Army in France, November 2.—Some of the American soldiers who have just been relieved after service in the trenches had thrilling stories to tell on returning to the billets. On clear days, especially, German snipers became active. Bullets went singing harmlessly overhead. American infantrymen were told off to attend to any sniper who became active, and more than one of them will snipe Americans no more.

This game of sniping was highly popular. The only complaint heard to-day was that there was not enough rifle-shooting to satisfy the infantrymen. Several of the soldiers said they went out to fight, but did not get enough. There is no scarcity of expert riflemen when a sniper starts in. A colonel had an exciting experience when the Germans nearly got the range of an observation post in which he and his aide were. They lost no time in taking temporary cover.

The artillery on both sides was rather more active during the last days in which the first contingent of Americans was in the trenches. The Germans shelled the back areas and approaches, putting shrapnel and high-explosive shells in the direction of the trenches and battery positions. Aside from living up things for awhile, nothing was accomplished by the enemy.

The infantry in one section had quite a lively time for two nights. The Germans, thinking a hostile patrol was near them, opened fire with their rifles at the point where the opposing trenches are nearest. The Americans let the Germans fire for a time, and then they themselves began to fire.

Several German airplanes which flew over the trenches were targets for rifles and machine guns.

The morale of the Americans is distinctly pleasing to the French. The troops marched out of the trenches in the dark, their wet and muddy clothing clinging to them. As soon as they were out of hearing of the Germans the men swung along whistling or singing.

Officers of all the groups commented on the remarkably small

amount of sickness which developed. There are some bad colds, but as far as reported there are less than half a dozen other cases, including "trench feet" and pneumonia. An officer said the splendid physical condition of the men was responsible for this showing.

The battalions sent in to relieve the men who have just left the trenches found the ground frozen when they came up. The sector remains normal, according to the latest reports available.

TO-DAY'S ADVERTISEMENT.



ARROW COLLARS

THE high quality of these excellent collars has been thoroughly standardized so that no matter what style or size you may demand it is always forthcoming in the highest possible quality at

MACKINTOSH'S
AND
TAK CHEONG'S.

DAIRY FARM NEWS.

POULTRY.

OUR

HOUSE FED CAPONS

AND

CHICKENS

ARE THE BEST IN THE EAST.

TENDER EATING, DELICATE
FLAVOUR—TRY THEM.

JUST ARRIVED.

STOCK OF

RELIEF PEN NIBS

\$2.50 PER GROSS.

VENUS COPYING PENCILS

\$2.50 PER BOX.

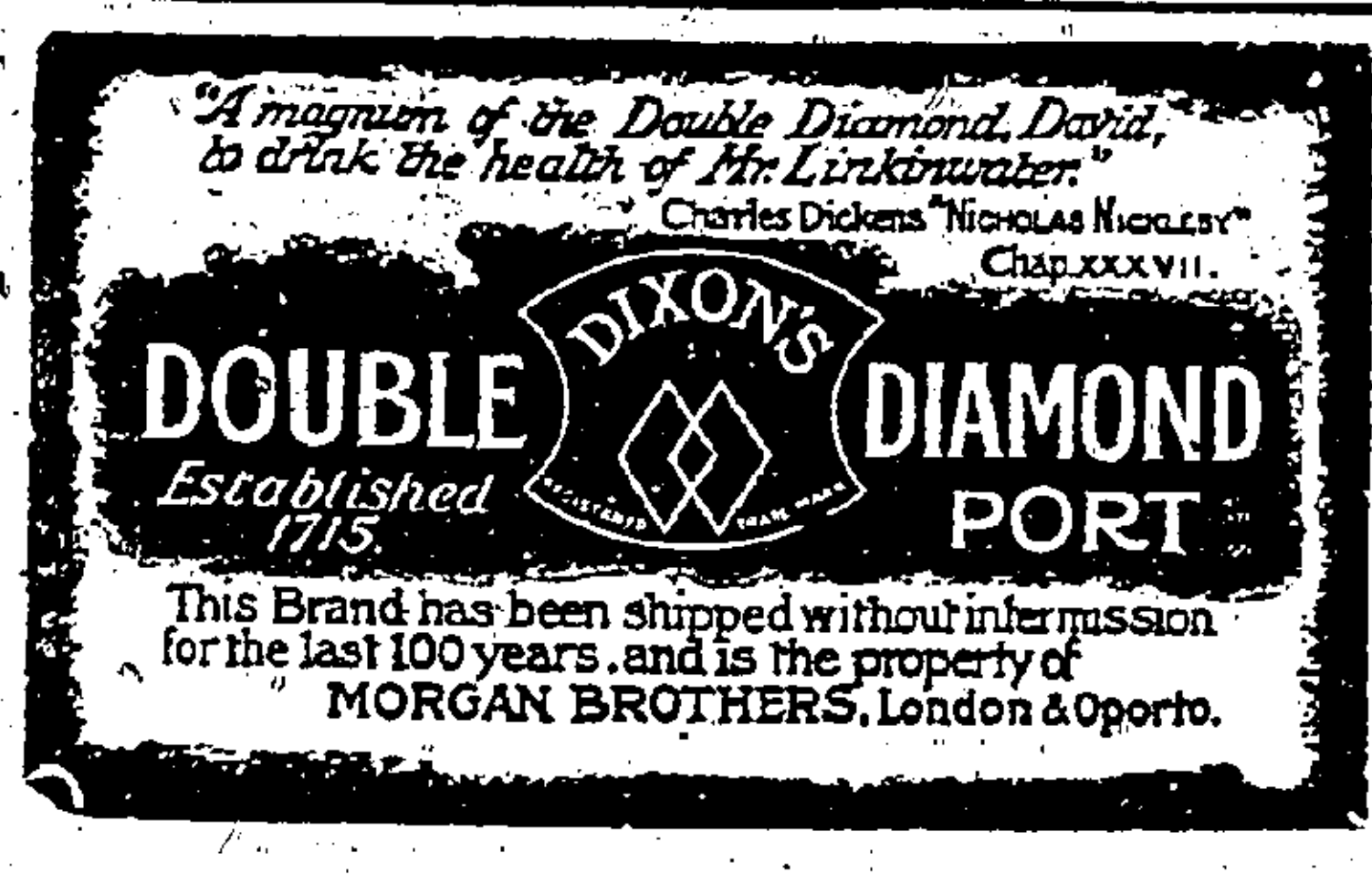
CONTAINING ONE DOZEN.

SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST, LTD.

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A HISTORICAL PORT



CAN BE HAD FROM ALL WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANTS.

SOLE AGENTS:

H. RUTTONJEE & SON,

16, Queen's Road.

TO-DAY'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

KOWLOON-CANTON RAILWAY.

THE Public is hereby notified that on and from WEDNESDAY, December, 12th, the departure of express trains from Kowloon and Canton will be as follows:—

Down.
Leave Canton 7.25 P.M.
Leave Kowloon 8.05 P.M.

Up.
Leave Kowloon 8.05 P.M.
Leave Canton 7.25 P.M.

The mid-day express trains on SATURDAYS and SUNDAYS are cancelled.

For further particulars see time tables.

By Order,
H. P. WINSLOW
Manager.

Kowloon-Canton Railway.
WEN TEH CHANG,
Managing Director.

Chinese Section,
Canton-Kowloon Railway.
8th December, 1917.

SAKURA BEER



SOLE AGENTS:

SUZUKI & CO.

TEL. 468

AT HONGKONG & SHANGHAI.



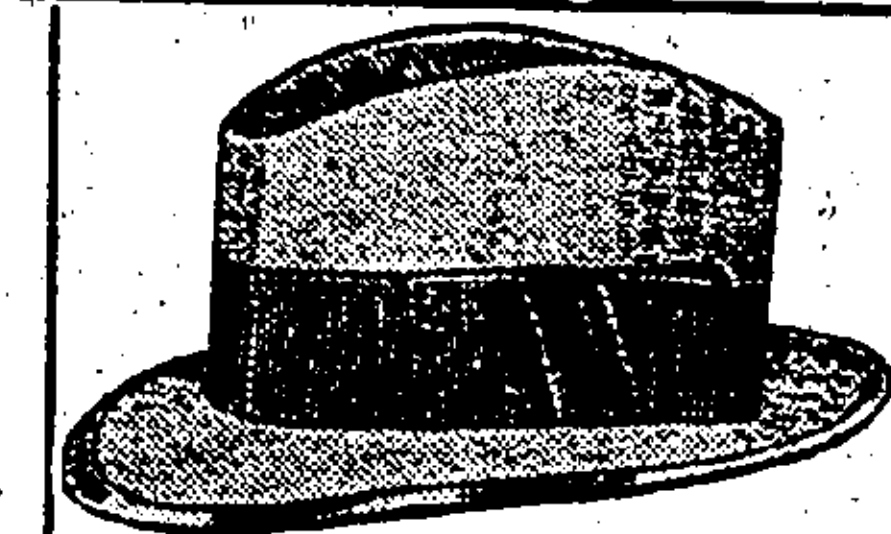
Satisfaction.

Why not insure unvarying satisfaction in your NECK-WEAR as in other things you buy.

When you find OUR NAME TAB on the neckband you can always depend on a Tie lasting and looking well for a maximum length of time.

MACKINTOSH

& CO., LTD.
MEN'S WEAR SPECIALISTS,
18, DES VŒUX ROAD. TELEPHONE NO. 4



JUST RECEIVED.
NEW STOCK OF
FELT HATS.

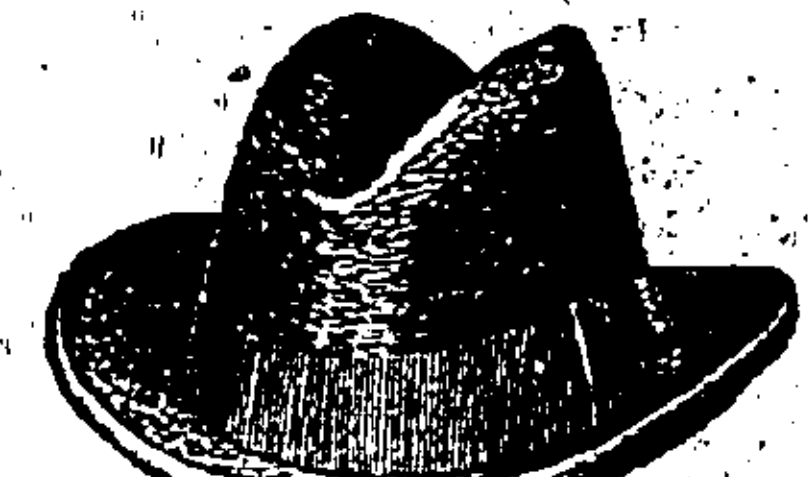
NEOLIGEEES
IN ALL THE NEWEST
MATERIALS & SHAPES

MADE BY
GLYN & CO.

44, OLD BOND ST.

LONDON, W.

SINGLE & DOUBLE
TERAIS AND
STRAW HATS
IN THE
LATEST STYLES.



THE ANDERSON MUSIC CO., LTD.

SOLE AGENTS

FOR

BROADWOOD PIANOS

NEW MODELS JUST RECEIVED.

SPECIALLY PREPARED FOR THIS CLIMATE

16, DES VŒUX ROAD.

TEL. 1322.

XMAS HAMPERS.

We beg to notify our Customers that Assorted Hampers suitable for the festive season may be obtained from us at the following reduced rates.

No. 1 HAMPER.

1 bottle Champagne, "Moët & Chandon," Quart
1 "Bacchus Brandy"
1 "D.O.M."
1 "Brandy, Martell's XXX"
2 "Whisky, King George IV or Perfection"
1 "Port, Fugate Tawny"
2 "Claret, St. Julien"
1 "Sherry, Old Brown"
1 "Gin, Old Tom or Dry "D.C.L."
1 "Burgundy, Burgoyne's"
1 phial Pomeranzan Bitters

\$ 31.00

No. 2 HAMPER.

1 bottle Champagne, "Victor Clicquot," Quart
1 "D.O.M."
1 "Burgundy, Burgoyne's"
1 "Brandy, Martell's XXX"
2 "Whisky, King George IV or Perfection"
2 "Port, Tawny Dry"
1 "Claret, St. Julien"
1 "Gin Old Tom or Dry "D.C.L."
1 "Sherry "Vino de Pasto"
1 phial Pomeranzan Bitters

\$ 27.00

No. 3 HAMPER.

1 bottle Burgundy, Burgoyne's Quart
1 "Peppermint, Get Freres"
1 "D.O.M."
2 "Rich Old Port"
2 "Whisky, King George IV or Perfection"
1 "Brandy 20 years Old"
1 "Sherry, Amontillado W.B."
3 "Claret Medoc"
1 "Gin Old Tom or Dry "D.C.L."
1 phial Pomeranzan Bitters

\$ 23.00

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P. & O. S. N. Co.

ROYAL MAIL SERVICE.

WILL despatch VESSELS to the Undermentioned PORTS

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WIRELESS ON ALL STEAMERS. Return tickets at a fare and-a-half available to Europe for two years, or Intermediate Ports for six months. Round-the-world and through tickets to New York at Special Rates.

For PASSAGE RATES, HAND-BOOKS, FREIGHTS, DATES OF SAILING, ETC., apply to:-

P. & O. S. N. Co.'s office
Hongkong, 1st April, 1917.E. V. D. Parr,
Superintendent.

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QUICKEST TIME ACROSS THE PACIFIC

To Canada, United States and Europe via Vancouver

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EMPRESS OF ASIA. EMPRESS OF RUSSIA.

30,625 tons displacement. 30,625 tons displacement.

Electric Heat in Every Cabin. Electric Light in Every Cabin.

One, Two and Three-Room Suites with Private Bath.

Laundry—Gymnasium—Verandah Cafe.

EMPRESS OF JAPAN. MONTEAGLE.

11,000 tons displacement. 12,000 tons displacement.

Twin Screw Steel Steamships, with Modern Accommodations.

Excellent Table. Reduced First Class Fare.

S.S. "Monteagle" calls at Moji instead of Nagasaki. ALL STEAMERS call at Shanghai both East and West Bound.

Through Bills of Lading issued via Vancouver in connection with Canadian Pacific Rv. to all Overland Points in Canada and the United States, also to Pacific Coast Ports, European Ports and the West Indies.

For information as to Passage Rates, Freight Rates, etc. apply to Agents:

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P. D. SUTHERLAND, General Agent, Passenger Department, Hong Kong.

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APCAR LINE.

Regular Service Between
SHANGHAI and JAPAN PORTS.

EASTWARD.

The above steamers have excellent saloon accommodation for passengers and are fitted with all modern conveniences and carry a duly qualified surgeon.

For freight or passage, apply to

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For particulars of sailings shippers are requested to approach the undersigned.

Steamers proceed via Cape of Good Hope.
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FOR SALE OR HIRE
ORDERS BOOKED IN ADVANCE. APPLY:—
EXILE GARAGE.

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DEP. VICTOR ROAD.

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NIPPON YUSEN KAISHA.

THE JAPAN MAIL STEAMSHIP CO.

Projected Sailings from Hongkong—

Destination.	Subject to Alteration	Sailing Date.
LONDON via Singapore, Malacca, Penang, Colombo, Delagoa Bay, Cape Town, Madeira, VICTORIA, B.C., & SEATTLE via Shanghai, Nagasaki, Kobe, Yokohama, and Yokohama.	Tokiwa Maru Capt. Ogura	T. 15,130 TUES., 13th Dec., at noon.
SHANGHAI, Kobe and Yokohama.	Mishima Maru Capt. Nishimura	T. 16,000 WEDNES., 12th Dec., at 11 a.m.
SHANGHAI, Kobe and Yokohama.	Suwa Maru Capt. Sekine	T. 21,000 SATUR., 15th Dec., at 11 a.m.
SHANGHAI, Kobe and Yokohama.	Nagasaki Maru Capt. Takeda	T. 9,600 FRI., 14th Dec., at 11 a.m.
KOBE and Yokohama.	Kirin Maru Capt. Sasagi	T. 8,000 TUESDAY, 18th Dec.
KOBE		

EASTBOUND NEW YORK LINE VIA PANAMA CANAL (CARGO ONLY).

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SAN FRANCISCO LINE
VIA SHANGHAI, THE INLAND SEA, JAPAN & HONOLULU.

FAST AND LUXURIOUS MAIL STEAMERS.

Steamers.	Tons.	Leave Hongkong.
KORU MARU	18,000	18th Dec.
SIBERIA MARU	18,000	31st Dec.
YAMATO MARU	25,000	11th Jan.
NIPPON MARU	11,000	23rd Jan.
SHINTO MARU	22,000	6th Feb.
PERSIA MARU	19,000	

The S.S. "NIPPON MARU" and S.S. "PERSIA MARU" omit call at Shanghai.

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HONGKONG TO VALPARAISO VIA JAPAN, HONOLULU, SAN FRANCISCO, SAN PEDRO, SALINO CRUZ, BALBOA, CALLAO, ARICA AND IQUIQUE.

THENCE BY TRANS ANDERSON ROUTE TO BUENOS AIRES.

Steamers.

ANYO MARU

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These are interchangeable with the Canadian Pacific Ocean Services, Ltd. and the Pacific Mail Steamship Co.

Passengers may travel by rail between ports of call in Japan free of charge.

For full information as to rates, sailings, etc. apply to

T. DAIGO, Agent.

KING'S BUILDINGS.

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JAVA PACIFIC LINE

OF THE

JAVA-CHINA-JAPAN LIJN.

Monthly Service between

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Next sailings for SAN FRANCISCO via NAGASAKI

Subject to change without Notice.

Sailing from Hongkong to San Francisco.

S.S. Tjikembang — 26th Dec. S.S. Tjisondari

Arakan — 31st Dec.

ALL STEAMERS FITTED WITH WIRELESS TELEGRAPHY.

The steamers have accommodation for a limited number of

saloon passengers and carry a duly qualified surgeon.

Cargo taken on through Bills of Lading to all Overland Points

in the United States of America and Canada.

For particulars of Freight and Passage, apply to—

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Hongkong, York Buildings. Managing Agents.

SHIPPING

C. N. C.

CHINA NAVIGATION CO., LTD.

SAILINGS SUBJECT TO ALTERATION.

For	Steamers.	To Sail.
SHANGHAI	Sunkiang	11th Dec. at 3 p.m.
SHANGHAI	Shantung	13th Dec. at 3 p.m.

DIRECT SAILINGS TO WEST RIVER, Twice Weekly.

S.S. "LINTAN" and S.S. "SANUL"

MANILA LINE.—TWIN-SCREW STEAMERS. Excellent Saloon accommodation Amidships; Electric Light and Fans in Saloon and State-rooms.

SHANGHAI LINE.—PASSENGERS, MAILS AND CARGO. Excellent Saloon accommodation Amidships; Electric Light and Fans in Saloon and State-rooms. Regular schedule service between Canton, Hongkong and Shanghai, taking Cargo on through Bills of Lading to all Yangtze and Northern China Ports. Passengers are landed in Shanghai, avoiding the inconvenience of transshipment at Woosung.

For Freight or Passage apply to

BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,

Telephone No. 36.

Hongkong December 8, 1917.

Agents.

JAVA-CHINA-JAPAN LIJN.

Regular Fortnightly Service between
CHINA and JAPAN.

Steamer	From	Expected on or about	Will leave on or about	For
Tjiuwong	Moji	in port	8th Dec.	Kobe
Tjidodas		8th Dec.	12th Dec.	
Tjidamoeck		20th Dec.	25th Dec.	Shanghai
Tjitiroem	Amoy	20th Dec.	31st Dec.	

The steamers are all fitted throughout with electric light and have accommodation for a limited number of saloon-passengers. All steamers carry a duly qualified surgeon. Cargo taken at through rates to all ports in Netherlands-India and Australia.

For particulars of Freight and Passage, apply to the

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DOUGLAS STEAMSHIP CO., LTD.

HONGKONG & SOUTH CHINA COAST PORT SERVICE.

Regular Service of Fast, High Class Coast Steamers having good accommodation for first Class Passengers, Electric Light and Fans in state-rooms and Saloon and Excellent Cuisine.

FOR SWATOW, AMOY AND FUOCHOW AND RETURN.

(Occurring 2 to 10 days.)

Steamships. Captain Leaving.

Haitan ... A. E. Hodgins ... TUES., 11th Dec., at noon.

Haitong ... J. W. Evans ... TUES., 18th Dec., at noon.

FOR SWATOW.

Arrivals and Departures from the Company's Wharf (near Blake Pier).

For Freight and Passage, apply to

Douglas Lapraik & Co.,

General Managers.

INDO-CHINA STEAM NAVIGATION CO., LTD.

(Projected Sailings from Hongkong.—Subject to Alteration).

For	Steamship	On
WEIHAIWEI & Chefoo Chipshing		Mon., 10th Dec. at 4 p.m.
SHANGHAI via Swatow Wosang		Tues., 11th Dec. at d'light.
HAIPHONG	Talsang	Tues., 11th Dec. at 7 a.m.
SHANGHAI	Koonshing	Fri., 14th Dec. at d'light.
MANILA	Loongsang	Fri., 14th Dec. at 3 p.m.
MANILA	Yuensang	Fri., 21st Dec. at 3 p.m.
CALCUTTA LINE		Three sailings per month from Hongkong to Calcutta calling at Singapore and Penang.

Resuming from Calcutta steamers proceed to Kobe and Moji, frequently calling at Shanghai and carrying a fully qualified surgeon. This line is temporarily discontinued owing to the war. Particulars on application.

SHANGHAI LINE.—Sailings approximately every five days between Canton and Shanghai, sometimes calling at Swatow. Steamers on this line have a limited amount of passenger accommodation, and through tickets can be obtained for Northern and Yangtze Ports via Shanghai. Through Bills of Lading are issued to all Northern and Yangtze Ports.

MANILA LINE.—A weekly service is maintained with Manila by vessels with good passenger accommodation, sailings from both ports every Saturday.

BORNEO LINE.—One sailing per month between Hongkong and Sandakan by a steamer having 4740 tons accommodation for passengers.

Cargo taken on through Bills of Lading for Kuala, Jesselton, Labuan, Tawau and Lahad Duta. TIENTSIN LINE.—A regular service is run from March to October between Bangkok and Tientsin calling at Weihaiwei and Qingdao.

Under Straits Government Passport Regulations.

All European Passengers, leaving the Colony for Straits Settlement, are required to produce on arrival at destination passports with their Photographs and description affixed thereto.

For Freight or passage, apply to

JARDINE, MATHESON & CO., LTD.

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General Managers.

AMERICAN EXPRESS COMPANY.

HEAD OFFICE—NEW YORK.

Branches and Agencies in all
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AMERICAN EXPRESS TRAVELLERS CHEQUES—

the best form in which to carry travel funds.

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SHIPPING NEWS.

Hardships Upon Junior
R.N.R. Officers.

Considerable dissatisfaction and discouragement have been experienced by many enthusiastic young midshipmen holding temporary commissions to the Royal Naval Reserve who have completed these services required by the Board of Trade to qualify them to sit for second mate but have not yet reached the age of twenty years and are thus debarred, under the Admiralty regulations, from being eligible for the "acting" rank of acting sub-lieutenant. The Mercantile Marine Service Association have lately been interested in the case of an ex-cadet of H.M.S. Conway, who has almost completed four years sea service, yet is unable to obtain a commission as sub-lieutenant until September, 1918, when he will attain the age of 20 years. When he does attain that age he will have practically four years' seniority as a midshipman. Yet there are midshipmen who have scarcely 18 months' seniority but have their time in for second mate and though in reality junior to the ex-Conway cadet above mentioned, are entitled to promotion because they have attained the requisite age. Representations have been made by the association with regard to this particular case, and also with regard to the numerous instances of midshipmen, R.N.V.R. who have no training or sea experience yet for whom no regulation exists concerning their age for promotion, several of them having been known to obtain it at the very early age of 18. It is hoped that the "powers that be" will lend a sympathetic ear to these representations and so amend the regulations enabling cases, of which the instance of the ex-Conway is typical, to become eligible for the promotion which they have justly earned.

Journal of Commerce.

Admiralty Compensation

Grant to Shipmaster.

In the early part of the present year the Mercantile Marine Service Association brought before the attention of the Government the hardships incurred by masters and officers of the Mercantile Marine who through being invalided out of the service and unfitted for earning their living by reason of the anxiety and strain imposed upon them by the strenuous conditions afloat, were thrown upon the world with no adequate provision for the future. Numerous instances have come under the notice of the association where masters and officers have been obliged to abandon their means of livelihood, and, as they were previously in the service of private owners they received no financial help during their incapacity. It will be remembered that the Admiralty replied to the effect that the subject had already engaged their sympathetic consideration, and they had decided that the benefits of the injuries in war scheme were to be applicable in future to mercantile officers in the pay of the Admiralty whose incapacity was indirectly due to the war, specifically including cases where a latent malady became a natural one by reason of the nature and condition of employment. The Admiralty further stated that full consideration would be given to any representations made by the association concerning cases which it was considered merited further recognition. In view of this the secretary approached the Admiralty in April of this year with regard to the case of the master of an Admiralty transport whose health had been permanently impaired owing to his arduous responsibilities and the climatic conditions prevailing when he was with his vessel at Basra, as a result of which he had to be removed to Basra base hospital suffering from heat stroke, and was eventually incapacitated from following his profession. Considerable correspondence ensued upon the subject, and as a result of the representations of the association the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty have now granted the master a very handsome allowance. In the course of their letter the Admiralty state that having regard to the medical reports furnished on his case, they regard his capacity to contribute to his own support as "totally destroyed." The allowance, amounting to £560.16s. 8d p.a. annum for a period of 11 months from the 1st April last inclusive, was therefore awarded, and its continuance thereafter at the same or a reduced rate will be dependent upon the results of further medical reports and the expiration of that period.

CONSIGNMENT

FOR THE RED CROSS.

Two Months' Efforts by Canton Workers.

The following is a report of shipments made to Egypt by the Canton Local Red Cross Workers, during October and November. Through the kind generosity of Shamsoun and Canton friends, numerous Christmas gifts for the wounded were included in the cases:—

On October 10, one case to Colonel Gordon Hall, R.A.M.O., Cairo, containing the following:—4 dos. surgical masks, 7 eye bandages, 6 roller bandages, 49 T. bandages, 18 many-tailed bandages, 66 triangular bandages, 1 vest, 1 surgical coat, 2 bed jackets, 11 shirts, 18 ward clothes, 19 tray cloths, 1 pair pyjamas, 5 kimono, 18 pairs of socks, 1 Japanese fly catcher, 11 pairs of braces, 10 collars, books and magazines.

On November 23, two cases to Colonel Gordon Hall, R.A.M.O., Cairo, containing the following:—52 shirts, 18 pyjamas, 8 bed jackets, 25 pairs socks, 5 pairs surgical stockings, 19 surgical masks, 8 surgical caps, 24 triangular bandages, 48 many-tailed bandages, 71 T. bandages, 22 eye bandages, 142 khaki and white handkerchiefs, 10 knitted woollen caps, 1 knitted helmet, 1 pair knee-caps, 1 floor cloth, 2 pillow cases, 1 dressing gown, 34 pipes, 12 tobacco pouches, 22 cigarette cases, 4 cigar cases, 12 cigarette holders, 10 packets Baven cigarettes, 800 Sae Hoo cigarettes, 29 tins Baven cigarettes, 400 Saha cigarettes, 1,000 Capetan cigarettes, 600 Reina Victoria cigars, 200 Minerva cigars, 7 large tins Capetan navy cut tobacco, 48 tins Baven cigarettes, 5 tins Capetan cigarettes, 4 tins Embassy cigarettes, 4 tins Glasgows mixture, 5 lbs. Bull-Durham tobacco, 60 lbs. sugar, 6 doz. tins chocolate and milk, 6 boxes preserved ginger, 4 boxes biscuits, 19 bottles sweets, 11 tins U. All No Mints, 2 tins Cadbury's chocolates, 84 cakes soap, 5 metal soap boxes and soap, 7 packets Lifebuoy soap, 29 tubes tooth paste, 17 tins shaving soap, 12 shaving brushes, 41 tooth brushes, 61 metal combs, 8 tins boot polish, 6 leather belts, 1 mouth organ, 64 new packs Rambler cards and 12 used packs of cards.

On November 24, one case to the Matron, 36th Stationary Hospital, Mohamediyia, Sinai Peninsula:—5 new flannel shirts, 8 old cellular shirts, 5 white duck trousers (short), 9 white duck trousers (long), 6 white duck coats, 3 shrouds, 8 eye bandages, 17 hospital coats, 1 pierrot suit, 1 bundle old linen, 1 lot old towels, 8 cellular singlets, 2 afternoon tea-cloths, 2 pairs mosquito-proof stockings, 6 thin coats (white alpaca), 3 thin waistcoats, 6 flannel shirts, 4 pairs flannel trousers, 4 pairs flannel bandages, 5 cholera belts, 1 pair khaki puttees, large quantity socks (black and white, thick and thin), 14 pairs boots and shoes, 6 bottles sweets, 2 tins chocolates, 1 box cigars, 20 packs of cards, 21 tins cigarettes, 1 box counters, 3 bottles sweets, 2 tins Cadbury's chocolates, 2 tins jam and 2 tins cigarettes.

Acknowledgments.

The following acknowledgments have been received:—Queen Mary's Needlework Guild, Friary Court, St. James's Palace, S. W. 9th July, 1917.

Dear Madam, I am commanded by her Majesty to convey to you the expression of her high appreciation of your generosity, and to thank you for the splendid gift which you have been so good as to send to the Q.M.N.G.

Yours faithfully,

(Signed) ANNIE LAWLEY,

Hon. Sec.

The Hon. Sec., Canton Red Cross Workers, Shamsoun, Canton.

British Red Cross

and

Order of St. John,

36 Stationary Hosp.,

Mohamediyia,

E. E. F.

July 9, 1917.

Dear Madam.—We have received 2 cases of supplies for our patients

LORD HALDANE'S SERVICES.

Striking Tribute from Lord Warwick.

The Earl of Warwick's "Memories of Sixty Years" contains some excellent stories. His very earliest memory (he was born in 1853) is of the visit of Queen Victoria and the Prince Consort to Warwick Castle in 1858; and he has been on more or less intimate terms with royalty ever since. One of his curious stories, by the way, is that of the Queen (wife of the old blind King) of Haver, whom he was astonished to see smoking two large cigarettes at once. "I think she must have noticed my astonishment," he says, "for she remarked, 'I smoke in this fashion because I get more smoke into my mouth, and that is what I like.'"

A reference to his grandmother's devotion to her brother, Lord Lucan, reminds Lord Warwick of a very similar affection between Sir Douglas Haig and his sister, Mrs. Willis Jameson. On one occasion Sir Douglas, who is an ardent sportsman, had secured a brief leave of two days to join a shooting-party which the Jamesons were giving; but on his arrival he found that Mrs. Jameson had engaged an artist to paint his portrait for her. "Without a murmur," Lord Warwick relates, "he gave up the shooting and spent the two days sitting to the artist, who, I regret to say, did not do full justice to the sitter. The shooting was first-rate, and the leave had been hard to obtain, so the measure of brotherly devotion will certainly appeal to sportsmen."

Lord Warwick is a warm admirer of Lord Haldane's military record.

I don't suppose, he remarks, that I share many of Lord Haldane's political convictions, but I recognised, and still recognise, the truth that as a first step in the direction of securing the national safety, this (the Territorial) idea deserved success on its merits without reference to politics.

Great soldiers whose names command the respect of all classes have testified to the value of Lord Haldane's scheme, but everybody who has studied the question knows that it was crabbled by the politicians, particularly by the advocates of compulsory military service. If Lord Haldane's scheme had received the general support it deserved the terrible stress of the first few months of the Great War might have been far less awful than it was.

Humanitarians will be interested by the statement of this kindly nobleman, preeminently a sportsman (in spite of much bad health), that "You can't eliminate cruelty from sport."

from the Canton Local Red Cross Workers, with which we are delighted.

You send us such extremely nice things and so many that we never get from anywhere else.

May I especially mention the shrouds? They are such nice ones, and so useful where one cannot procure coffins always. I am thankful to say we have had very few deaths, but we have fixed up a nice little mortuary with purple fittings and now we have nice shrouds it will help make it more reverent and impressive.

Needless to say the sweets and smokes were much appreciated. We are right in the desert, far out of reach of shops and so everything doubly valued.

The multi sent is used for two purposes, cool uniform for sick officers, the old flannels for our cricketers and other garments for our "Exiles Concert Party" who give a weekly sketch in their programme.

I think out here everything finds some use. The cool pyjamas were gratefully received by the officers and the tray cloths came in for their ward also.

With our best thanks.

Sincerely yours,

(Sd.) D. MILLICENT C. MITCHELL,

(MATRON)

SIR JOHN SIMON.

Why He Joined the Army.

Sir John Simon, before leaving for the front in France, has written as follows to the chairman of the Walthamstow Liberal Association:—

The prolongation of the war makes it more than ever necessary to bear steadily in mind the reasons which compelled us to enter upon it, and to keep our eyes fixed on the goal towards which, through this welter of blood and misery, we are striving. No country and no Government ever was more honestly devoted to the preservation of peace than our country and Mr. Asquith's Government in August 1914. Nothing could have induced us to take part in the struggle save the conviction that the unprovoked invasion of Belgium and the brutal policy of military aggression which it disclosed compelled us, cost what it might, to intervene, and to prove to the German people that ideals of liberty and equal rights for all nations, great and small, will in the end prove stronger than the most scientific scheme of force ever devised for the enslavement of the world.

The unfolding, since war began, of the real character of German war aims and of the excesses which Prussian military policy is prepared to permit and avow, makes our duty clearer than ever; but it does not change our object. Our object has never been aggressive; we desire that the German people should have the same chance of peaceful and orderly life as ourselves and as the rest of the world. We are convinced that when they really see that they have put their trust in a false system, which so far from securing the results promised to them, only brings upon them domestic evil and universal hatred, the victory of right will be won and the way will be open to end this nightmare of suffering and to secure that it can never return to curse the world.

The practical question therefore is whether the Allies have yet brought about that disillusionment of the German people which is the only foundation upon which future peace can be built. That the rulers of Germany who planned their scheme of conquest and confidently counted on its success, are disillusioned, I do not doubt; but the peace of the world cannot be secured by accepting promises from statesmen who hold that promises are made in order that they may be broken whenever their military plans make it convenient to do so. And in spite of all that has been accomplished by the Allies, and of the certainty which Sir Douglas Haig's strategy gives us that the enemy is being overthrown, I cannot bring myself to believe in the possibility of negotiating an immediate and satisfactory peace.

The peace we want is a peace which will prevent a war like this ever happening again. To be content with less than this is to make all our sacrifices of no avail; to demand more than this is to forget the object for which we went to war and the ideal which has inspired us. Some good and sincere men and women have persuaded themselves that the basis for negotiating such an immediate peace already presents itself, but I cannot agree with them and to talk of peace when as yet the condition upon which secure peace depends has not been fulfilled only blunts the edge of our resolve. As soon as that condition does arise it will require just as much courage to insist upon peace as it now does to carry on war.

In the meantime the greatest of human needs is that the war should be so ended as to give to the whole world a prospect of real peace such as it has not hitherto known; there must be no war after the war. The sacrifice of life and the waste of treasure which war involves are accompanied by so many and so varied invasions of civil and commercial liberty at home that we shall need all our strength to secure a full return to the practice of social and industrial freedom as soon as the cessation of war makes it possible

to do so. No sensible man can doubt that terms of peace must in the end be settled by conference, but we have first to secure the foundation upon which negotiation can rest, and persevere in unity to that end. I can imagine only one crime which is to be compared to the crime of permitting the war to go on for an unnecessary hour, and that is the crime of slackening in our purpose, after all the sacrifices we have made, before a real opportunity of securing it has arisen.

Holding these opinions, I have very anxiously considered what my own duty is, and, though it is but little that a man of my age and training can contribute by joining the Army in the field, I have come to the conclusion that I ought at this stage to take that course. It is not that I do not estimate as important the work which Parliament is doing and will have to do. On the contrary, the time is coming when the task of Parliament in restoring and enlarging our peaceful liberties and in applying to the life of our own community the ideals which have bound the nation together in undertaking the war will be of unexampled importance. It is for that reason that I have done my utmost to help in framing and carrying the Franchise Bill, but that Bill, I trust, secure, and peace will come all the sooner if those who care most ardently for the traditions and practices of peace remember, and show that they remember, for what we are fighting.

I have made arrangements by which the letters which come to me from my constituents can be attended to as usual, and can, in case of need, be forwarded to me.

£5,000,000,000

Our War Costs up to September.

Some remarkable figures showing our enormous war expenditure and some valuable suggestions for more effective control are set out in the first report of the Select Committee on National Expenditure issued on October 26. Here, in brief, is our war bill:—

Up to the end of September we had expended 5,000 million sterling.

Against this 1,321 millions will be owing by our Allies, Dominions and India.

3,600 millions have been added to the National Debt.

If the present daily expenditure does not increase, each six months of war will involve a gross addition to the debt of about 1,000 millions.

If interest be taken at five per cent. and an allowance made for Sinking Fund the gross addition to the annual debt charge consequent upon each six months of war on the present scale would be about £60,000,000 and the net addition £45,000,000.

With these figures before them the committee issue a warning. While agreeing that success must not be imperilled by the stinting of money necessary to achieve the end in view, they point out that the expenditure is on a scale so immense, the burden of debt, which is steadily accumulating, will involve annual charges that will threaten so gravely our future finance that the committee are of opinion that considerations of cost must be put on a different plane from that which they have hitherto occupied.

The Committee suggest that the War Office should send to all commands a letter emphasising the need for further economies, and that an appeal should be made to every soldier of the need of safeguarding his arms, ammunition and equipment. The War Office should bring pressure upon the more wasteful units.

The Committee are impressed by the magnitude of the number of Army units maintained at home, and consider that the matter should be again reviewed as a whole by the General Staff and the War Cabinet.

Three instances are quoted where reform might be effected:—I. The cost for the guarding of a single sentry of the Royal Defence Corps is no less than £350 a year. The number of

such posts and the methods of staffing them should be reconsidered.

2. There is in France and at a British port an immense accumulation of fired brass shell cases and wooden shell boxes to the value of several millions of pounds. Adequate arrangements do not appear to have been made for their return and re-use, and meanwhile the manufacture of new brass cases and wooden boxes proceeds.

3. There is a considerable wastage of small arms ammunition by the troops, cartridges being sometimes thrown away unused to lessen the weight of the bandoliers.

Considerable attention has been devoted by the Committee to the operations of the Ministry of Munitions, and they find certain very serious instances of lack of financial control.

A series of recommendations are made. (1) That one of the Parliamentary Secretaries should be charged with the finance of the Ministry and be responsible to Parliament, and have power to initiate steps to safeguard the interests of the taxpayer. (2) That he should be responsible for the financial consideration of programmes and the financial aspect of national factories and allocation of orders.

They consider that the Government should have taken steps to establish such a "measure of Treasury control as would have enabled the Treasury to satisfy itself that capital expenditure and contracts for munitions were being made only on terms that were carefully considered and were reasonable war conditions.

Instances of want of co-ordination in buying between different Government departments have been brought to the notice of the Committee. In the words of the Treasury representative who gave evidence, the Treasury have from time to time made efforts to stop competitive buying by departments, but they have not had much success.

There is an interesting disclosure in that part of the report dealing with the operations of the Wheat Commission.

The largest purchase made by the Commission was 14 million quarters of wheat purchased direct from the Australian Government, involving £26,000,000. Shortly after the contract was made shipping scarcity became acute, and the great bulk of the wheat is still in Australia. The Commission have a guarantee as to quality for export up to December 1917 and have arranged with the Australian Government for the storage of the flour into which the wheat is now being converted. It is to be feared that much of the flour must be wasted if the necessary ships are not soon provided—a contingency which seems not to have been sufficiently taken into account.

The Committee suggest that if it is impossible to get tonnage for export to any market immediate steps should be taken to see whether the wheat cannot be manufactured in Australia into some commodity capable of being preserved until it can be brought into consumption.

Reviewing the work of the Ministry of National Service, they find that the housing accommodation could have been more economical. The officials loaned included officials with salaries of £1,600 a year and in one case £1,500. It seems that the work done by these officials could have been adequately performed by persons receiving smaller salaries. £223,720 seems to have been spent by the department.

It does not seem necessary, says the Committee, to have set up a large staff in an expensive hotel to obtain the loan of men from the Army. We are of opinion that the results obtained were not commensurate with the preparations made and the heavy preliminary outlay of money.

Rent Reminder.

Owners of property are reminded that Crown rent for the second half-year of 1917 is payable at the Treasury on or before the 24th instant.

PREMIER'S LIBEL ACTION.

His Movements During an Air Raid.

The Prime Minister appeared in the Courts recently as plaintiff in a libel action against the Exchange Telegraph Co., Ltd., the proprietors of the Westminster Gazette, and the proprietors of the Star, in respect of the publication of a statement regarding his movements on the occasion of the air raid of Sept. 24. The actions, which were settled, were mentioned to Mr. Justice Lush in the King's Bench Division.

Mr. Tindal Atkinson, K.C., who appeared for the Premier, said that on Tuesday, Sept. 25, there appeared in the Star, under the heading of "Raid Items," the following paragraph:—

"Mr. Lloyd George's Country Retreat.—The Exchange Telegraph Company says: The Prime Minister spent the night at his residence at Walton Heath, Surrey, having left Downing-street about the time that it first became known that the raiders were approaching London."

That paragraph was communicated by the Exchange Telegraph Company to no fewer than 44 newspapers throughout the country and five Press Agencies—three English, one Australian, and one American—so that it was intended to give the widest possible circulation to it; but, luckily, only the Star and the Westminster Gazette and the South Wales Western Mail, which copied it from the Star, published it.

Mr. Hume Williams, K.O., who represented the Star, said it appeared in eight papers.

Mr. Atkinson said he had direct instructions from Mr. Lloyd George to make it clear that if it had really been a personal attack upon himself alone, without any public consequences flowing from it, he would have felt it unnecessary to take any notice of it at all, except that it should be officially denied in the papers that were parties to the publication.

Mr. Lloyd George was informed that the effect of the paragraph, especially in the East End of London, where there were many munition makers, and been most damaging. It was said that here was the Prime Minister, the head of the Government, having prior information as to the imminence of a raid, "slipping away" from Downing-street to secure his own personal safety at his private residence, while these people, toiling at munitions, were exhorted to go on working.

The Prime Minister went into the witness-box, and in reply to Mr. Atkinson said it was not till the Monday morning that he was summoned by telegram to be in France early the following day. "Before you left did you hear of the imminence of an air raid?" asked the K.O.

"Just as I started," replied the Premier, who added that he arrived at Charing Cross Station when it was in total darkness. "We were hung up on the bridge because the raid was going on at the time. You could see the shrapnel bursting all round."

Mr. Atkinson: If this had been some personal attack on yourself you would not have thought it necessary to take action?

Mr. Lloyd George: I should have seen it was contradicted. If I started taking actions I should have nothing else to do. (Laughter.) I thought it incumbent upon me to protect myself and to protect the public to take the surest and, if I may say so, the most dramatic method to compel these gentlemen to give the same publicity to the fact that this suggestion was a false one as they had given to the first announcement.

Sir E. Pollock, K.O., for the Exchange Telegraph Company, said he was there to express an apology sincere and unqualified to the Prime Minister.

Sir Ryland Adkins, for the Westminster Gazette, expressed deep regret that a statement should have been published which

SIX O'CLOCK FETTER.

No Workman at His Best the Early Morning.

Welfare work, said Mr. Kellaway, M.P., at the Conference at the Ministry of Munitions recently was not necessarily popular with those for whose benefit it was intended. A number of women munition workers in the North, in a tabulated list of things which they "had to put up with," included long hours, high prices of food, temper of the foreman, and the Welfare Superintendent.

Too much of what they understood as welfare work in the past had been associated with "May-fair dames" and "Tynabee Hall cranks," the sort of people who had always "taken an interest" in the working classes. There was nothing that the working classes objected to more than the kind of people who "take an interest in them."

Dr. E. L. Collis (Director, Welfare and Health Section) suggested that they should recommend the employers to start work after breakfast. He could not see what magic there was about 6 o'clock in the morning—a dark, cold, wet, horrid winter morning. The result was that the output was poor in quantity and quality.

[This reminds one of Mr. John Burns's declaration, 39 years ago at Peckham, that "the man who invented going to work before breakfast ought to be shot."]

TRANSPORT TORPEDORED.

Succeeds in Reaching Port.

Washington, November 1.—The transport Finland was recently torpedoed while returning to the United States, but was able to return to a foreign port under her own steam.

The Navy Department received a report of the attack, and the Secretary, Mr. Daniels, authorized its publication. The navy report does not say whether there was any loss of life or injury on the Finland.

This official announcement was authorized:—

"The Navy Department has received dispatches stating that the transport Finland was torpedoed while returning from foreign waters. The damage to the ship was slight, and she returned to port under her own steam. The Finland was under escort, but no sign of the torpedo or the submarine was seen."

The Finland is one of the largest steamers flying the American flag. Before going into the army transport service she plied between New York and European ports in the International Mercantile Marine Company's service under the Red Star and other lines. The vessel has a gross tonnage of 12,806 and a net tonnage of 7,711. She normally carries a crew of 257 men. The Finland was built in Philadelphia in 1902. Her home port is New York.

injured to some extent the authority and prestige of the Prime Minister.

Mr. Home Williams in expressing on behalf of the Star "an apology as simple and sincere as words could make it," explained that at about 12 o'clock on Sept. 20 the Prime Minister's private secretary rang up the Star and pointed out that the statement was untrue. The next edition of the paper appeared at 1.30, and in that, in the most prominent position, that could be given to the statement, there was the announcement that "We are officially informed that there is not the slightest truth in the statement circulated by the news agency that—" and there followed the original paragraph from the Exchange Telegraph. Between that and the next edition the correction of the Exchange was sent out, and that appeared in the five subsequent editions that day.

The record was then withdrawn on terms, the defendants undertaking to indemnify Mr. Lloyd George for costs.

